

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-13

AID-05 /088 W

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R 301000Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4046

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS NICOSIA 2161

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJECT: VIOLENCE MARS GREEK CYPRIOT ELECTION CAMPAIGN

1. JULY 28 ELECTION SPEECH BY DEMOCRATIC RALLY LEADER CLERIDES  
IN REFUGEE VILLAGE OF ARADIPPOU NEAR LARNACA WAS MARRED BY  
SCUFFLES AND MINOR VIOLENCE. ANTI-CLERIDES ELEMENTS  
FROM THE OUTSIDE REPORTEDLY INFILTRATED THE CROWD OF  
2,000 PLUS AND BEGAN SHOUTING "CLERIDES-TRAITOR" AND "CARAMANLIS-  
CLERIDES, JUNTA, NATO, CIA, TREASON." PUSHING AND SHOVING ENSUED,  
CHAIRS FROM NEARBY COFFEEHOUSES WERE THROWN ABOUT, AND ONCE ORDER  
WAS RESTORED AND CLERIDES WAS SPEAKING, TEN BURSTS OF GUNFIRE  
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WERE HEARD NEARBY. ACCORDING TO POLICE STATEMENT, ONE POLICEMAN

AND TWO CIVILIANS WERE INJURED IN MELEE, AND SEVERAL ARRESTS WERE MADE.

2. LEADERS FROM ALL THE POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE DEPLORED THE VIOLENCE. CLERIDES, IN LETTER TO ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, BLAMED POLICE FOR FAILING TO ACT TO PREVENT INCIDENTS AT ARADIPPOU DESPITE PRIOR WARNING THAT OUTSIDE ELEMENTS MIGHT TRY TO DISRUPT THE GATHERING. GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS UNANIMOUSLY CONDEMNED THE VIOLENCE. HOWEVER, COMMUNIST HARAVGHI AND LYSSARIDES' TA NEA, DESPITE PRESUMPTION THAT OUTSIDERS WERE LYSSARIDES' FOLLOWERS (JUDGING FROM THEIR CHANTS), SOUGHT TO SHIFT BLAME FOR DISRUPTIONS TO CLERIDES' SUPPORTERS IN THE CROWD, WHO THEY ALLEGED, WERE "KNOWN FROM THEIR EOKA B AND COUP ACTIVITIES." PRO-CLERIDES AGON WORRIED THAT THESE INCIDENTS CONSTITUTED PRELUDE TO SPLIT IN GREEK CYPRIOT UNITY WHICH WOULD INVITE COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF THE ISLAND. INDEPENDENT, PRO-CLERIDES SIMERINI CONDEMNED OTHER PAPERS FOR CYNICALLY ATTEMPTING TO PUT BLAME FOR DISTURBANCE ON CLERIDES AND SAID THAT AKEL AND LYSSARIDES, WHILE INVOLVING DEMOCRACY, ACTUALLY ARE UNDERMINING IT BY USING EXPLOSIVE SLOGANS AND PROMOTING INTERNAL STRIFE. WARNED SIMERINI: "WHEN HELLENISM IS IN DANGER AND THERE ARE STILL GREEKS READY TO LIQUIDATE GREEKS, IT IS... AUDACIOUS FOR VARIOUS LEADERS TO SPEAK OF DEMOCRACY, ORDERLY POLITICAL LIFE, UNITY AND STRUGGLES FOR SALVATION."  
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